



Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets



11 Publication number: 0 460 946 A2

12

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

21 Application number: 91305103.3

51 Int. Cl.⁵: A63H 33/30

22 Date of filing: 05.06.91

30 Priority: 05.06.90 JP 58851/90

72 Inventor: Todokoro, Masatoshi
2-33, Koganehara 2-chome
Matsudo-shi, Chiba-ken (JP)

43 Date of publication of application:
11.12.91 Bulletin 91/50

74 Representative: White, Martin David et al
MARKS & CLERK 57/60 Lincoln's Inn Fields
London WC2A 3LS (GB)

84 Designated Contracting States:
DE FR GB

71 Applicant: STAFF CO., LTD.
55-5-402 Kaeari 5-chome
Katsushika-ku Tokyo 125 (JP)

64 Toy Facsimile.

67 A toy facsimile, comprising :- a take-up shaft (6) whereon recording paper (5) is rolled round laid inside a case (1) molded in imitation of the external appearance of a facsimile apparatus; a delivery port (16) for the recording paper provided in a front end part of the case; a window frame (39) surrounding the surface of the recording paper (5) to expose a prescribed area thereof; an operation panel unit (45) whereon a push button group (43) is supported; and a seat (42) part whereon a model handset (41) is placed, the operation panel unit and the seat part being on the upper side of the aforesaid case.

EP 0 460 946 A2

Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to a toy which makes it possible to enjoy playing at the operation of a facsimile apparatus.

Prior Art

Toys which make it possible to play at the operation of facsimile apparatuses have not been seen heretofore.

Object of the Invention

It is an object of the present invention to provide an interesting toy facsimile apparatus which provides such effects as enable children to enjoy playing at the operation of a facsimile apparatus and to learn the function and usage of an actual facsimile apparatus through playing.

The above object and features of the present invention will be understood by considering the following description together with the attached drawings which illustrate an embodiment thereof.

Brief Description of the Drawing

In the drawings, which illustrate an embodiment of the present invention, Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the external appearance, Fig. 2 is a perspective view showing a state wherein a model handset is removed and a cover is opened, Fig. 3 is an enlarged cross-section through the embodiment, Fig. 4 is a plan view of the interior of a case main body, Fig. 5 is a bottom plan view of the interior of a case cover body, Fig. 6 is a plan view illustrating the construction of a paper transfer mechanism, and Fig. 7 is a side view illustrating the construction of the paper transfer mechanism.

Detailed Description of the Invention

An embodiment of the present invention will be described hereunder with reference to the drawings. Numeral 1 denotes a case imitating the external appearance of a facsimile apparatus and molded from plastics, and comprising a case main body 2 and a case cover body 3. At a rear part inside the case main body 2 a pair of bearings 4, 4 spaced apart right and left are provided, and a take-up shaft 6 whereon recording paper 5 is rolled round is laid rotatably and removably on these bearings 4, 4, a spool 7 for rotating the take-up shaft 6 manually is joined removably to one end of the take-up shaft 6. In the center inside the case main body 2, a battery box 10 is provided, having an opening 9 closable by a cover plate 8 provided in the base of the case main body 2. Two dry batteries 11, 11 are housed with the like poles thereof

located on opposite sides. At a front part inside the case main body 2, there is provided a paper transfer mechanism 14 comprising transfer rolls 13, 12 which hold, from above and below respectively, a fore-end part of recording paper 5 so drawn out from the take-up shaft 6 as to be inclined slightly downward, and on an upper side of a low front end wall 15 of the case main body 2, there is provided a delivery port 16 for delivering outside the case 1 the recording paper 5 transferred by the paper transfer mechanism 14. Between the take-up shaft 6 and the paper transfer mechanism 14 and on an upper side of the case main body 2, a ground plate 17 inclined gently so that it is in contact with a lower side of the recording paper 5 is provided. A guide plate 19 extends from the front end of said ground plate 17 to the delivery port 16 and is in contact with the lower side of the recording paper 5 and is inclined steeply so as to guide the recording paper 5 to the delivery port 16. The guide plate 19 has a cut part 18 formed so that part of the recording paper 15 may be held between the transfer rolls 12, 13. The front edge of said guide plate 19 is fixed to the case main body 2 by screws 20.

The construction of the paper transfer mechanism 14 is such that a small-sized motor 22 and a rubber transfer roll 12 which is disposed to that it rotates in contact with the lower side of and in the direction of transfer of the recording paper 5 are provided inside a mechanism frame 21.

The paper transfer mechanism 14 comprises the mechanism frame 21 which is provided with an electric motor 22 mounted on a shaft 23 and a rubber transfer roll 12 mounted on a shaft 31, the two shafts 23 and 31 being parallel and extending outside the mechanism frame 21. The paper transfer mechanism further comprises two additional shafts 26, 29 mounted in the mechanism frame and parallel to the motor shaft 23 and to the shaft 31. A first pinion gear 24 is fixed to one end of shaft 23 outside the mechanism frame 21, and a second pinion gear 25 is mounted on shaft 26 outside said mechanism frame to that it engages the first pinion gear 24. A third pinion gear 27 is mounted on shaft 26 inside the mechanism frame, and said third pinion gear engages a fourth pinion gear 28 mounted on shaft 29. A fifth pinion gear 30 is mounted on shaft 29, co-axial with gear 28, and this engages a sixth pinion gear 32 mounted on the shaft 31 of the rubber transfer roll 12.

The rotation of the motor 22 is transmitted to the transfer roll 12 by the gears 24, 25, 27, 28, 30, 32, the speed of the rotation being reduced thereby. The transfer roll 13 comprises a plastic roll, which rotates in contact with the upper side of the recording paper 5 with the rotation of the transfer roll 12, disposed above and parallel to the transfer roll 12.

In the paper transfer mechanism 14, the support shaft 31 of the transfer roll 12 is inserted through elongate holes 33 and 34 bored in the opposite side walls

of the mechanism frame 21, while a spring 36 pressuring the support shaft 31 so that the shaft pushes up the transfer roll 12 to a position whereat it always in contact with the transfer roll 13 and simultaneously pushes down the gear 32 to a position whereat it is always in contact with the pinion gear 30, is provided for suspension at one end 35 of the support shaft 31.

The case cover body 3 is provided with: an opening 37 through which the take-up shaft 6 of the recording paper 5 may be carried in or out; an opening 39 cut in accordance with the width of a surface 38 of the recording paper 5 transferred onto the ground plate 17; a handset seat 42 whereon a model handset 41 connected to the lateral side of the case main body 2 by a spiral cord 40 is placed; an operation panel unit 45 which supports a push button group 43 comprising ten push buttons representing numerals 0 to 9 in imitation of push buttons of a push-button telephone set and a separate push button 44; an accommodation chamber 46 for accommodating writing materials and the like; a cover 47 for this accommodation chamber 46; and a hole 48 cut so that a part of the outer circumference of the spool 7 projects therethrough. Inside the case cover body 3 are provided: bearings 49 bearing the transfer roll 13 rotatably; a small loud-speaker 51 disposed adjacent and underneath a small-hole group 50 bored in the handset seat 42; an IC circuit 53 which is disposed opposite to the operation panel unit 45, which is electrically connected to the small-speaker 51 by lead wires 52, which stores tones of the musical scale of do, re, mi, and others and a sound similar to that of a telephone ring and transmits a signal corresponding to an appropriate one of said tones to the speaker 51 in response to the operation of a push button of the push button group 43 or the push button 44; and a power switch 55 connected between said IC circuit 53 and the dry batteries 11, 11 by lead wires 54. A hole 59 is cut in the case cover body to that a push button 58 for operating a motor switch 57 connected between the dry batteries 11, 11 and the motor 22 by lead wires 56 inside the case main body 2 projects therethrough. A saw-toothed edge 60 for cutting the recording paper 5 is fixed to that part of the front end of the case cover body 3 which faces the exit of the delivery port 16.

The case cover body 3 is put on the case main body 2 and fixed integrally to the case main body 2 by driving screws through several joining holes 66 provided in the case main body 2 into corresponding joining holes 67 provided in the case cover body 3.

A cover 63 having a cover part 61 with which the opening 37 is covered and a window frame part 62 surrounding the surface 38 of the recording paper 5 to expose a prescribed area thereof on the cut opening 39 is provided on the case cover body 3. A part 64 is provided at the rear end of said cover 63 and is fitted pivotally to the rear end of the case cover body 3 so that the cover can be opened and closed, while a grip

part 65 is provided at a front end of the cover 63.

Next, one example of the operation of the toy facsimile having the above construction will be described. First the power switch 55 is turned ON and a character, a picture or the like is written or drawn on the surface 38 of the recording paper 5 exposed within the window frame part 62 of the cover 63. When the writing or drawing is finished, the copy thus prepared is handled at if it were set in the facsimile apparatus at an original copy to be transmitted, and the push buttons of the push button group 43 are pushed in imitation of an operation of calling up the facsimile number of the person to whom the transmission made, or the push button group 43 is operated, with the model handset 41 picked up from the handset seat 42 and held to the ear, in imitation of making a telephone call. When a push button of the push button group 43 representing a numeral "1" is pushed during the above-stated operation, a signal corresponding to a tone "do", from the seven-tone musical scale of do, re, mi and others, stored in the IC circuit 53 is transmitted to the speaker 51 and the tone "do" is emitted from the speaker 51. When a push button representing a numeral "2" is pushed, a signal corresponding to a tone "re" out of said scale is transmitted to the speaker 51 and the tone "re" is emitted from the speaker 51. In this way, ten tones comprising seven tone of "do" to "te" and three subsequent tones of "do" to "mi" one octave higher than the preceding ones are emitted from the speaker 51 when the push buttons up to the one representing a numeral "0" are pushed sequentially. Furthermore, when the push button 44 is pushed, a signal of a sound similar to that of a bell of a telephone, which is stored in the IC circuit 53, is transmitted to the speaker 51 and the sound similar to that of the bell of the telephone is emitted from the speaker 51. When the motor switch 57 is operated to be ON after the above-described operations of the push buttons are completed, the motor 22 rotates. The rotation thereof is transmitted to the transfer rolls 12 and 13 via the group of gears of the paper 5 outside the case 1 via the delivery port 16. When the aforesaid original copy to be transmitted is sent out, the rotation of the motor 22 is stopped by operating the motor switch 57 to be OFF, and said original copy is cut off by the edge 60. Then, the power switch 55 is turned OFF and thus a series of operations imitating the operation of a facsimile apparatus is completed.

When the recording paper is used up by repeating the operations described above, the cover 63 is opened, the spool 7 is removed from the end of the take-up shaft 6, the take-up shaft 6 is taken out, fresh recording paper 5 is rolled round thereon or the shaft is replaced by another take-up shaft 6 whereon fresh recording paper 5 has already been rolled, and thereafter the take-up shaft is laid between the bearings, 4, 4 as before. When the take-up shaft is in position, one end of the recording paper 5 is pulled out, passed be-

tween the transfer roll 12 and 13 and then inserted into the delivery port 16. If the recording paper 5 is found to be slack, the take-up shaft 6 is rotated in the direction of taking up the recording paper 5 by the spool 7, so as to correct the slack. After these operations are completed, the cover 63 is closed and the apparatus is again ready for use.

5

Claims

10

1. A toy facsimile apparatus comprising:- a case (1) moulded in imitation of the external appearance of a facsimile apparatus; a take-up shaft (6) rotatably disposed at a rear part of said case (1) and inside said case; an upper transfer roll (13) and a lower transfer roll (12) disposed at a front part of said case (1) and inside said case; recording paper (5) rolled around said take-up shaft (6) and extending to the front part of said case (1) and passing between the upper transfer roll (13) and the lower transfer roll (12); a delivery port (16) provided at a front end part of said case; means (60) provided at the exit from the delivery port (16) for cutting a portion from the recording paper (5); a window frame (39) disposed over an upper surface of said recording paper (5) and exposing a prescribed area thereof; a handset seat (42) provided on an upper side of said case; a telephone handset (41) removably located in said handset seat (42); and an operation panel unit (45) supporting a push button keypad (43) provided on the upper side of said case (1).

15

20

25

30

35

40

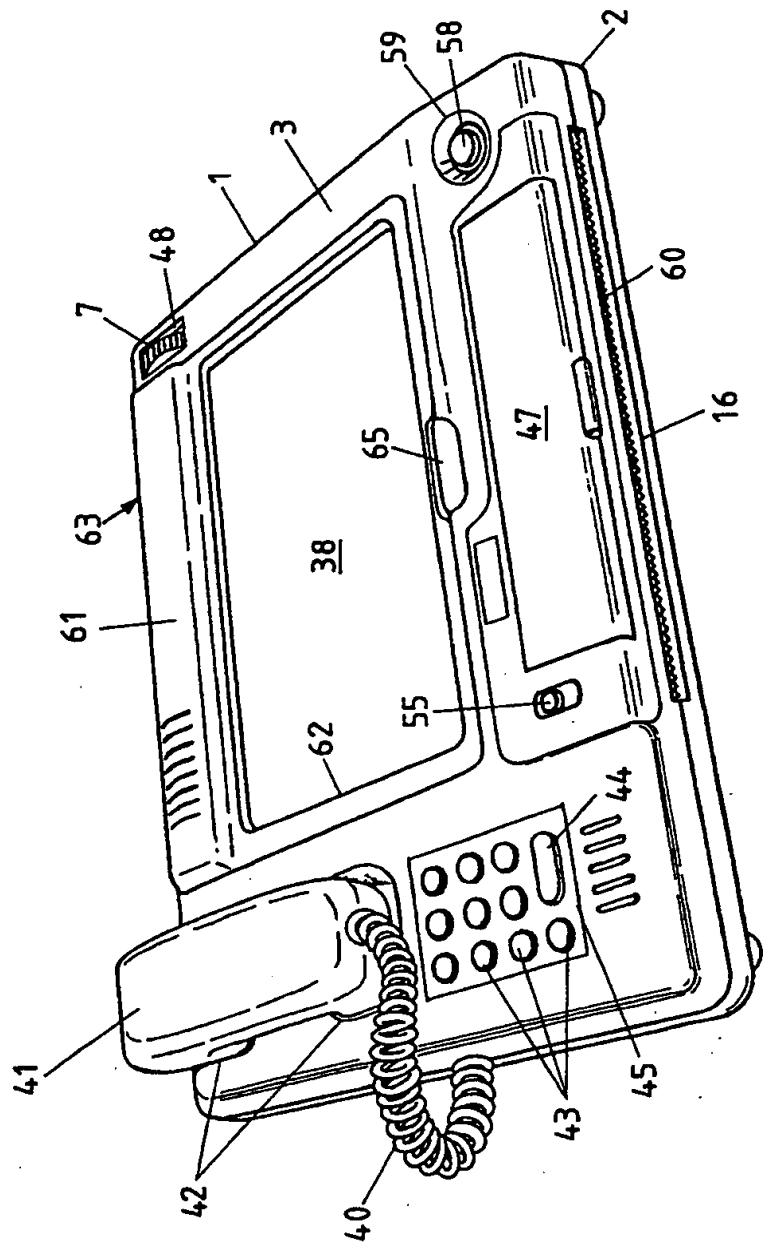
45

50

2. A toy facsimile apparatus according to claim 1 and further comprising, provided within said case (1):- a motor (22) drivably connected to said upper and lower transfer rolls (13,12); a loud-speaker (51) disposed opposite said handset seat (42); an IC circuit (53) electrically connected to said speaker (51) which stores signals corresponding to each tone of the seven-tone musical scale of "do", "re", "mi" etc., to the three subsequent tones "do" "re", and "mi" one octave higher than the preceding tones, to a sound similar to that of a telephone bell, to a voice and to other appropriate sounds and which transmits one or more of said signals to said loud-speaker (51) in accordance with the operation of said push buttons (43); and power supply means (11) electrically connected to said motor (22), to said speaker (51) and to said IC circuit (53).

55

FIG. 1



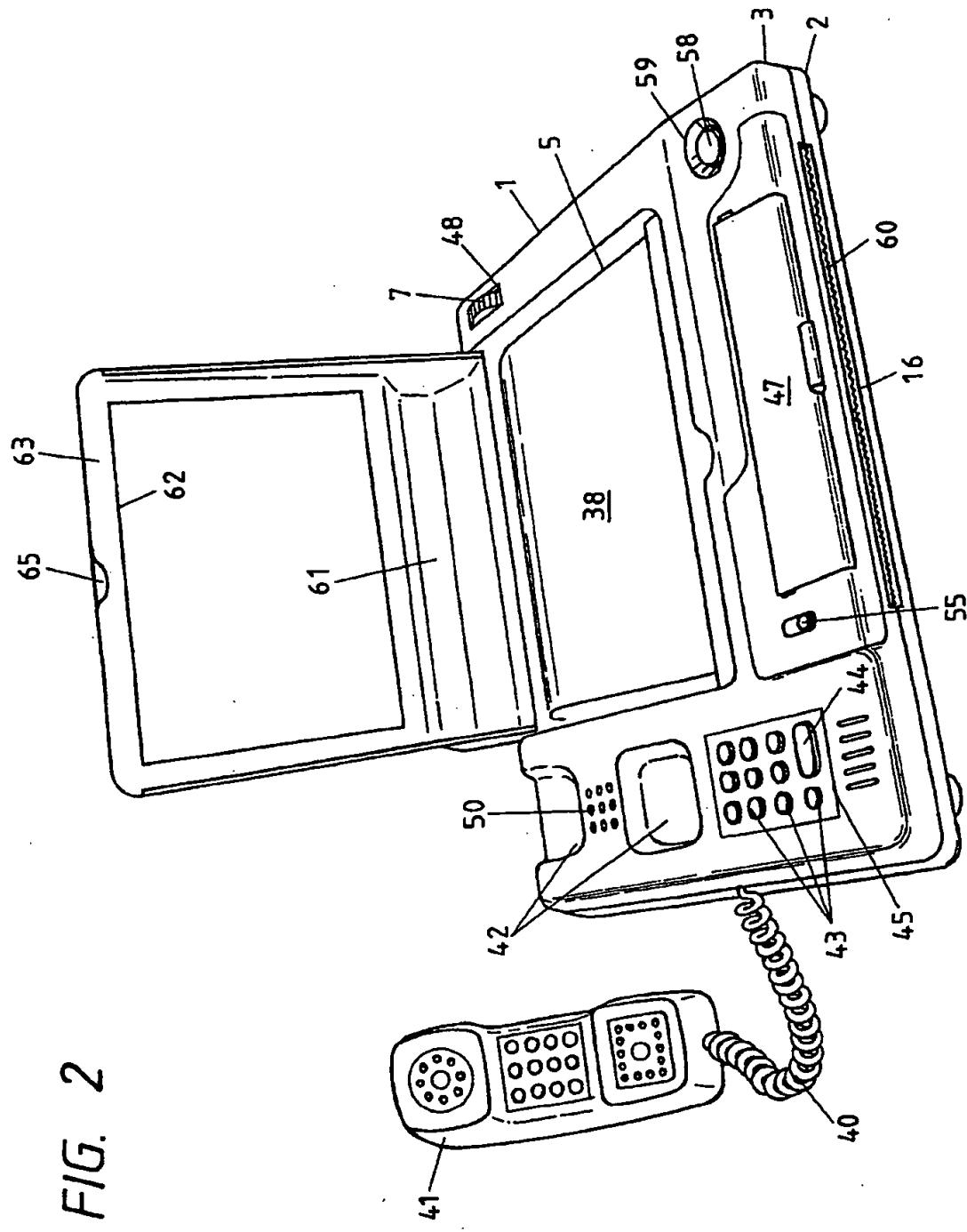
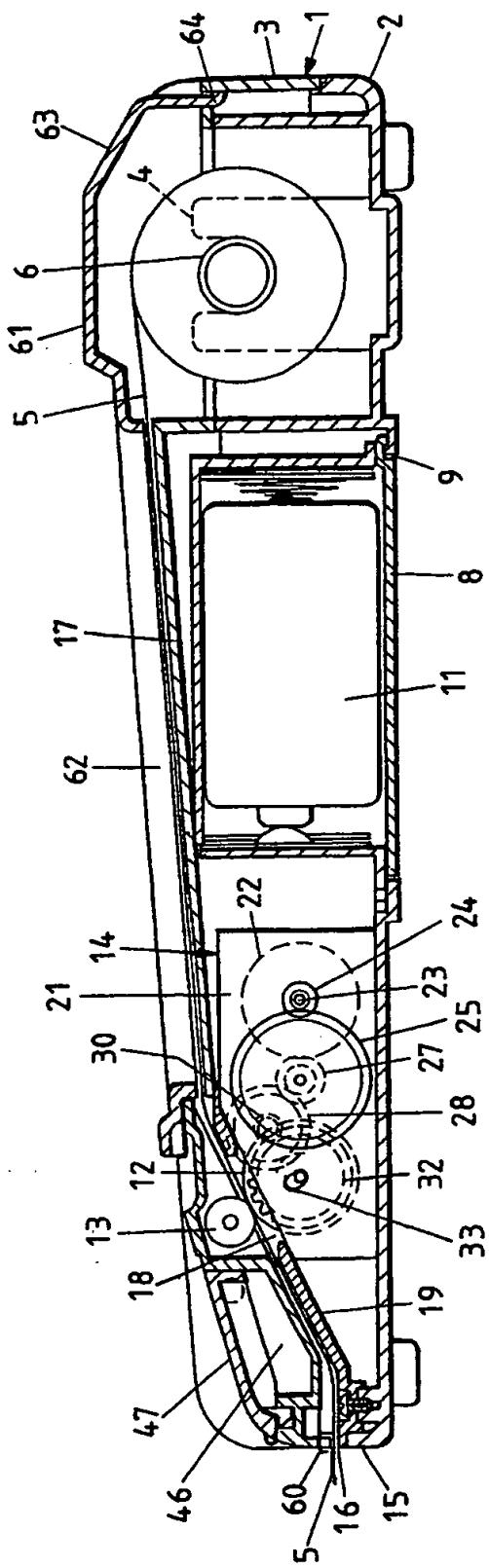


FIG. 3



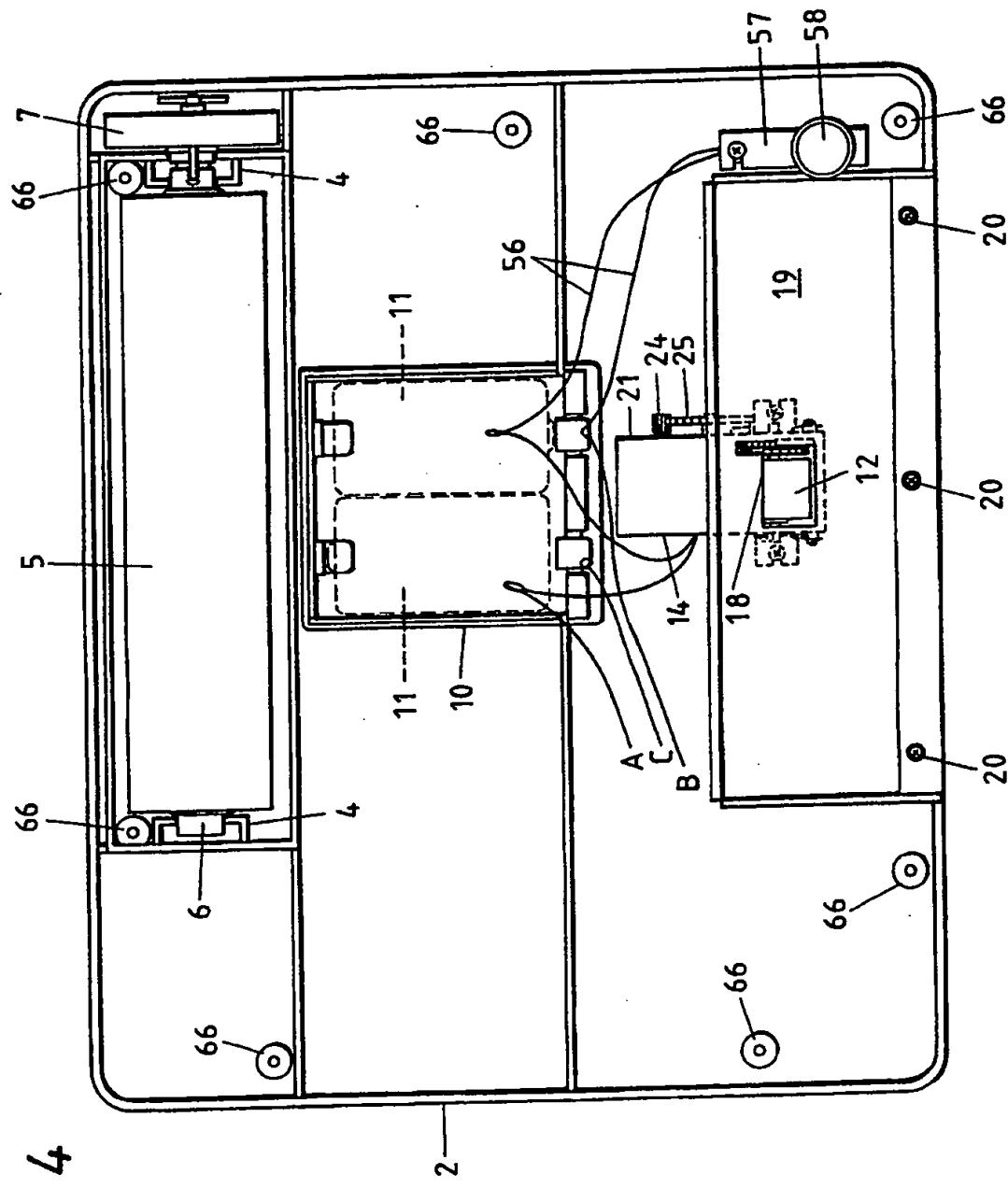


FIG. 4

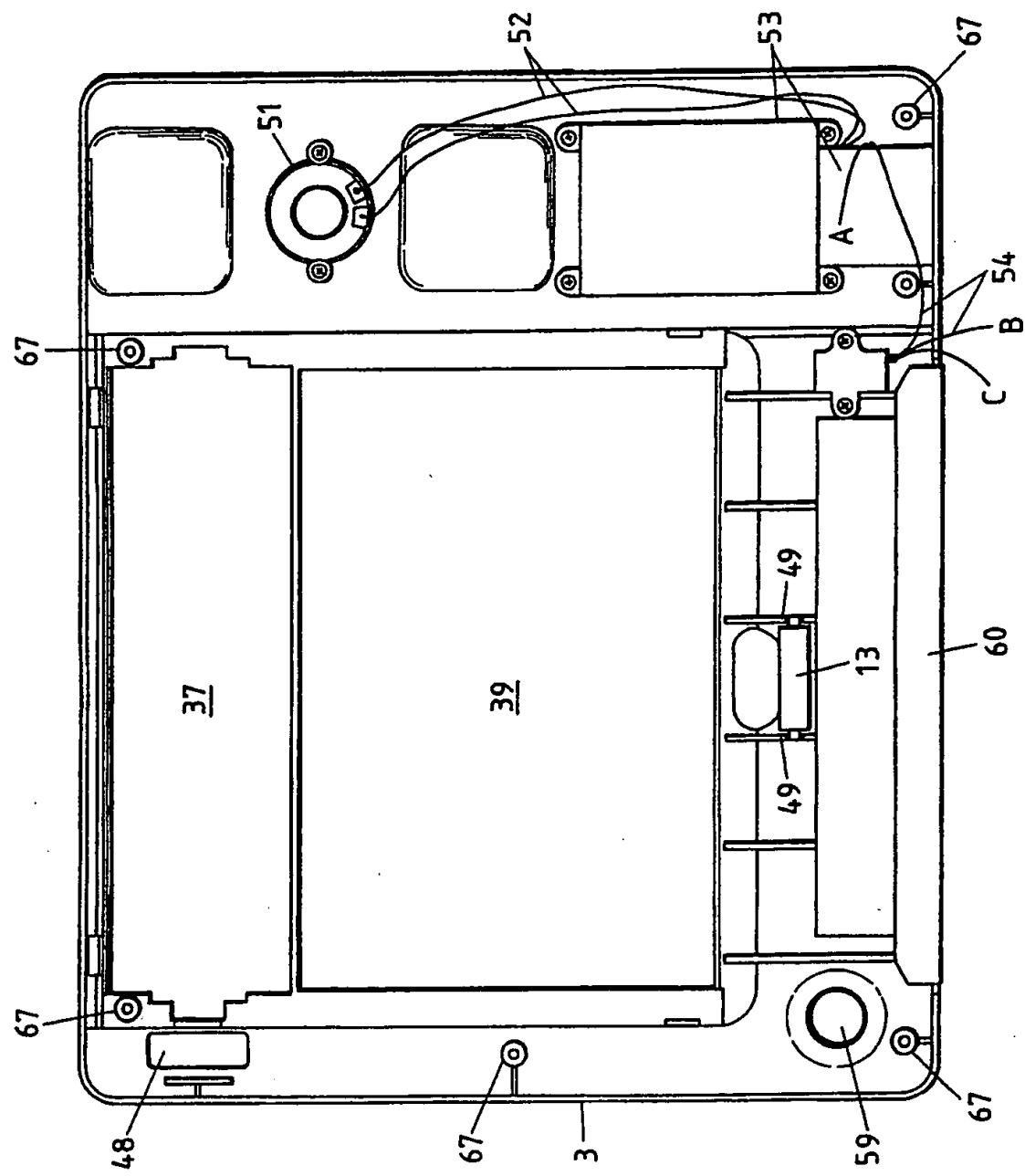


FIG. 5

FIG. 6

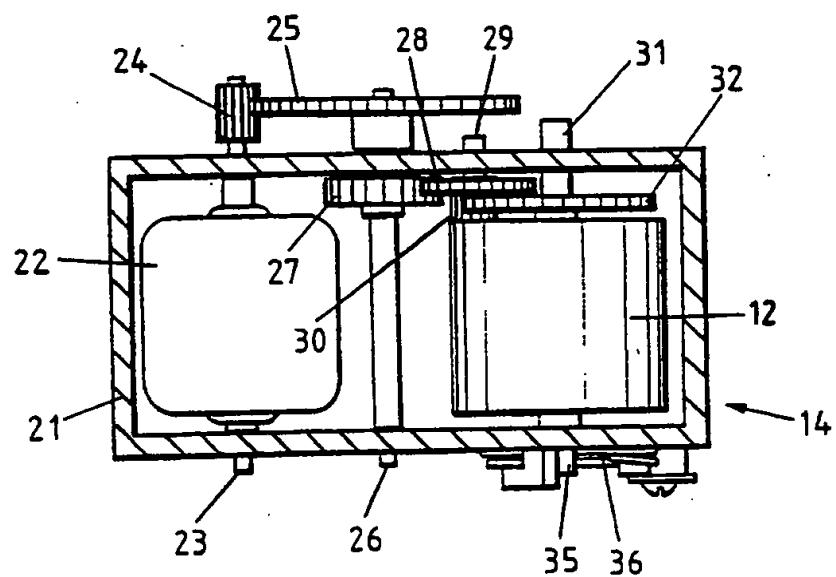


FIG. 7

